

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-17. (Cancelled)
18. (New) An information processing device comprising:
a display unit having changeable display brightness;
a detector configured to detect a lightness of surroundings;
a determining unit configured to determine a target display brightness of the display unit responsive to the surrounding lightness detected by the detector;
a selector configured to select one of a first mode and a second mode; and
a changing unit configured to change the display brightness of the display unit based on the target display brightness determined by the determining unit,
wherein the changing unit changes the display brightness of the display in a stepwise fashion if the first mode is selected and changes the display brightness of the display instantly if the second mode is selected.
19. (New) The information processing device according to claim 18, further comprising an input unit configured to input a selection one of the first mode and the second mode upon a user operation.
20. (New) The information processing device according to claim 18, wherein the selector selects the first mode when the difference between the target display brightness and a current display brightness is larger than a predetermined brightness and selects the second mode when the difference between the target display brightness and the current display brightness is not larger than the predetermined brightness.
21. (New) The information processing device according to claim 18, wherein the changing unit sets the display brightness of the display unit to a first brightness level when a first lightness level is detected by the detector and to a second brightness level when a second lightness level is detected by the detector, and

the display brightness is changed from the first brightness level to a third brightness level which is between the first brightness level and the second brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level when the display brightness is changed from the first brightness level to the second brightness level.

22. (New) The information processing device according to claim 21, wherein the display brightness is changed from the first brightness level to the third brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level after a lapse of a predetermined time period.

23. (New) A method of controlling brightness of an information processing device having a display unit with changeable display brightness, the method comprising:

detecting a lightness of surroundings;

determining a target display brightness of the display unit responsive to the detected surrounding lightness;

selecting one of a first mode and a second mode; and

changing the display brightness of the display unit based on the determined target display brightness,

wherein the display brightness of the display is changed in a stepwise fashion if the first mode is selected and the display brightness of the display is changed instantly if the second mode is selected.

24. (New) The method according to claim 23, further comprising enabling user input of the selecting of the first mode and the second mode.

25. (New) The information processing device according to claim 23, further comprising selecting the first mode when the difference between the target display brightness and a current display brightness is larger than a predetermined brightness and selecting the second mode when the difference between the target display brightness and the current display brightness is not larger than the predetermined brightness.

26. (New) The information processing device according to claim 23, further comprising setting the display brightness of the display unit to a first brightness level when a

first lightness level is detected and to a second brightness level when a second lightness level is detected, and

changing from the first brightness level to a third brightness level which is between the first brightness level and the second brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level when the display brightness is changed from the first brightness level to the second brightness level.

27. (New) The information processing device according to claim 26, further comprising changing from the first brightness level to the third brightness level and then from the third brightness level to the second brightness level after a lapse of a predetermined time period.